

# **Summer Homework: Investigating a Performing Arts Practitioner**

## **Task Overview**

Choose **one performing arts practitioner** (director, choreographer, actor, theatre-maker, or performance company) whose work interests you. Research their style, techniques, and influence on the performing arts industry.

Possible practitioners include:

- Konstantin Stanislavski
- Bertolt Brecht
- Matthew Bourne
- Frantic Assembly
- DV8 Physical Theatre

## **Essay Title**

**How has your chosen practitioner influenced performance practice?**

## **Requirements**

Write a **mini essay (800–1,200 words)** covering the following:

### **1. Background**

- Who are they?
- When did they work / when were they active?
- What type of performance are they known for?

### **2. Key Techniques / Style**

Explain their main ideas or methods. For example:

- rehearsal techniques
- acting methods
- movement style
- use of space, audience, or staging

### **3. Example of Their Work**

Analyse **at least one production or performance** they created or influenced.

You might consider:

- What makes the work distinctive?
- How do their techniques appear in performance?

### **4. Influence**

Explain:

- How have they influenced modern performing arts?
- Do practitioners today still use their ideas?

### **5. Personal Reflection**

Write a short conclusion:

- What did you find most interesting?
- Could you use any of their techniques in your own performance work?

### Harvard Referencing Task

You must use **at least 3 sources**.

These could include:

- books
- journal articles
- documentaries
- trusted websites

Use **Harvard referencing** both:

1. **In-text citations** within the essay
2. A **reference list** at the end

### Example of In-Text Citation

Stanislavski believed emotional truth was essential for believable acting (Carnicke, 2008).

### Example Reference List

Book:

Carnicke, S.M. (2008) *Stanislavsky in Focus*. 2nd edn. London: Routledge.

Website:

[National Theatre](#) (2024) *Frantic Assembly Resources*. Accessed: 30 June 2026.

Video:

[YouTube](#) (2023) *Introduction to Brecht*. Accessed: 30 June 2026.

### Submission Checklist

Before submitting, check that you have:

- Written 800–1,200 words
- Included a clear introduction and conclusion
- Used at least 3 research sources
- Included Harvard references
- Proofread spelling and grammar

### Optional Stretch Challenge

Create a **1-minute practical response** inspired by your practitioner (monologue, movement piece, short scene, etc.) and be prepared to perform or discuss it in September.